

Special Issue

Computer Simulation of the Origin of Life

Message from the Guest Editors

To date, we are still by and large in the dark in the field of the origin of life. However, clues have been accumulating from both experimental and theoretical studies. On the one hand, the origin of life is certainly a problem of chemistry, which involves molecular mechanisms in a prebiotic context— so-called prebiotic chemistry. Experimental work has been contributing to this aspect, and we have seen exciting discoveries. On the other hand, the origin of life is also a problem of evolution. Fortunately, theoretical work, now largely based on computer simulation, may contribute by demonstrating relevant evolutionary dynamics, and has revealed many interesting mechanisms. It is expected that the combination of experimental and theoretical efforts will ultimately lead to a breakthrough in this special field dealing with one of the most amazing events in nature. This Special Issue focuses on computer simulation studies on the origin of life—mainly studies related to the evolutionary aspect, but the scope encompasses a wider range of topics, and includes any potential in silico work concerning the origin of life.

Guest Editors

Dr. Wentao Ma

Hubei Key Laboratory of Cell Homeostasis, College of Life Sciences, Wuhan University, Wuhan 430072, China

Prof. Dr. Paul Higgs

Department of Physics and Astronomy, McMaster University, Hamilton, ON L8S 4M1, Canada

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Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Lluís Ribas de Pouplana

Institute for Research in Biomedicine (IRB Barcelona), The Barcelona
Institute of Science and Technology, 08028 Barcelona, Spain

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